

WITH THOUSANDS IN ATTENDANCE, GREATEST CONVENTION IN HISTORY
OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS BEGAN IN CITY AUDITORIUM LAST NIGHT

Important Plans Projected at Meeting of Laymen in Afternoon.

OFFER MADE BY MR. BURT

Willing to Support Ten Missionaries in China — Movement Expected to Bring About a Revolution in Certain Lines of Work.

Plans discussed and partially consummated yesterday afternoon at a meeting of level-headed business men, not a few of whom are known throughout the country, are to bring about within the coming years a revolution in the conduct of the church work of the Southern Baptist Convention.

It was the first definite step toward the organization of the Baptist laymen of the South into an aggressive religious force. Gigantic sums to be devoted to the evangelization of the world were discussed and there were not a few dramatic incidents. Chief among these was the offer of Mr. R. E. Burt, president of a great Texas oil company, to send ten missionaries to China at his own expense. After several of the distinguished members had delivered addresses, Mr. Burt was invited to say a word.

"Brethren," said the Texan, "I never made a speech in my life, and I can't make one now; but if Brother Willingham will send ten new missionaries to China, he can send the big 'X' to me."

It is needless to say that this was a "speech" of the most effective sort, and the astounding offer aroused the greatest enthusiasm.

Business-like Body.

Over two hundred men of affairs were present at the conference, which was marked by the most intense earnestness throughout. The call for the gathering was signed by Ex-Governor Northern, of Atlanta, and by Hon. Joshua Levering, of Baltimore. Mr. Levering presided, and introduced the various speakers.

A most striking informal talk was made by Mr. J. Campbell White, secretary of the laymen's movement, whose offices are in New York City. Mr. White's presence, which might be called almost providential, since only an accident enabled him to be in Richmond at this time, added greatly to the force of the gathering. Action was finally taken appointing a committee of seven to confer with a similar committee from the convention, with a view of holding a public meeting on Sunday in the interest of the movement.

All the addresses made were practical and businesslike, and at times the meeting might almost have been taken for a group of financiers considering the building of a railroad, or the floating of bonds for some great business enterprise. The conviction was generally expressed that the gathering was the beginning of a movement that would rouse the Baptist churches in a way that they had never yet been roused to the work of missions both at home and abroad.

Mr. Levering Spoke.

In opening the conference, Mr. Levering told the famous "Haystack" prayer-meeting a century ago, when Roger Williams and a band of five students of Williams College met together to pray for the spread of the gospel. This meeting, the speaker said, was the practical beginning of foreign missions, and the centennial of that gathering was observed in New York, when a great body of Christian men met, and before God prayed that they might grasp their personal responsibility in this day, as that little band had done a century before.

The laymen's movement, which is springing up in all denominations, and in all parts of the country, Mr. Levering said, grew out of the increasing conviction that the men of this country are not doing their Christian duty. Men are just beginning to realize that it is as much their duty to give their time and means to the Kingdom of God as it is to enter into any other scheme or financial proposition.

What he proposed in his call, Mr. Levering stated, was merely to ask other men to unite with him in laying before the business men of the country a simple business proposition; to show them what it means as any other form of investment would show, and to induce them to give their denominational boards such support as they have never received before.

Continuing, Mr. Levering told of the work of the Laymen's Movement of New York, which has grown out of the "Haystack Centennial," and which is engaged in stimulating the organization of the laymen of all churches.

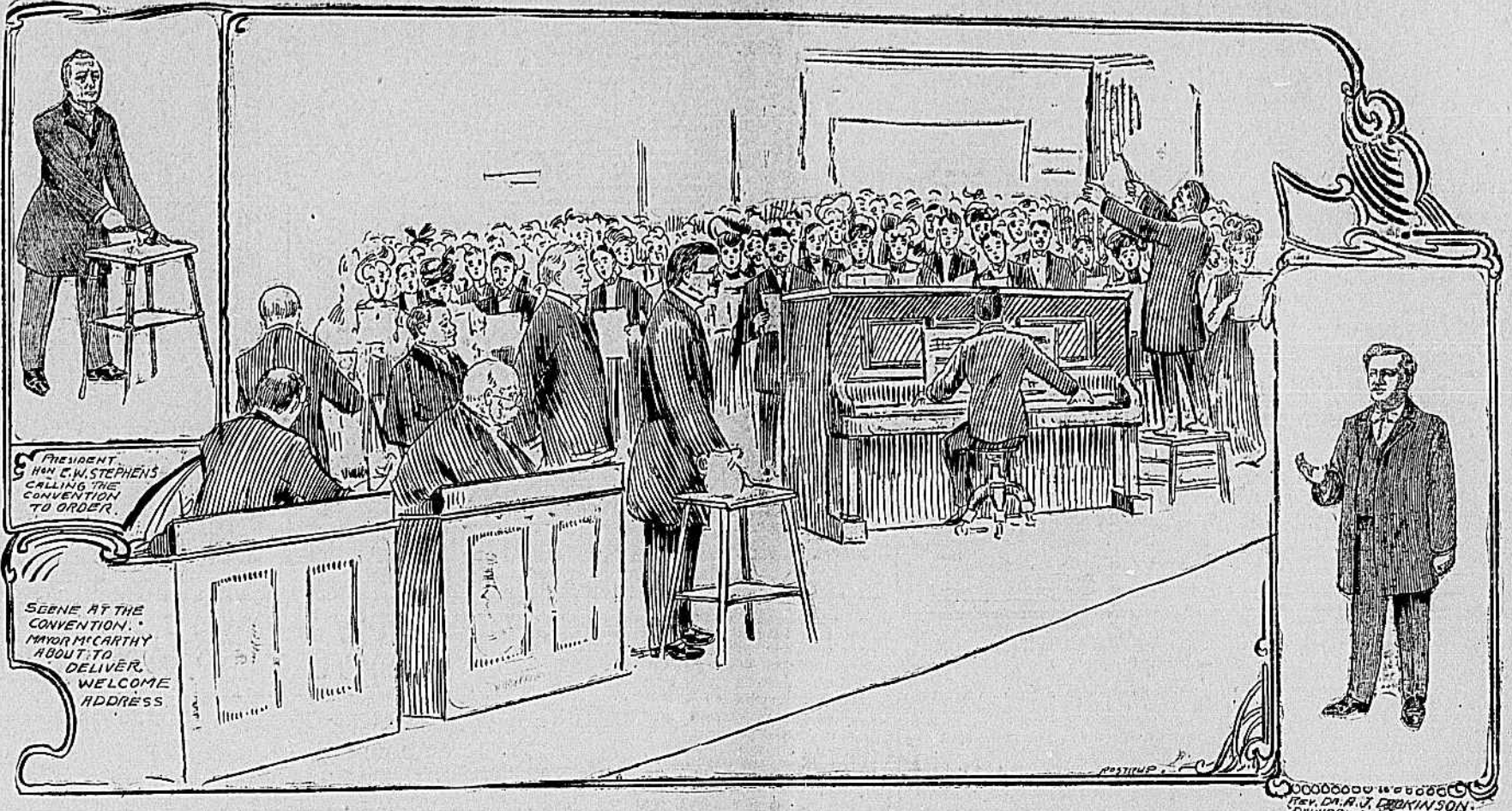
"It is the purpose of this movement," said the speaker, "to secure fifty or a hundred representative business men of this country who will at their own charges, visit every mission field on the globe, and report to us frankly and fully whether there is any waste, mismanagement or neglect, and to report as to the toll, suffering and labor of those on the firing line."

Business and Religion.

In conclusion, Mr. Levering introduced Ex-Governor Northern, of Georgia, who opened his remarks by saying that the whole object of the gathering was to bring about a revolution in the injection of business into religion.

"Our business methods in religion can be greatly improved if we can make business men responsible," he declared. "We have turned over the management of our mission boards too largely to our ministers."

Governor Northern then told of the proposed laymen's movement, stating (Continued on Fourth Page.)



SUIT PROMISES TO BE SENSATIONAL

Wife of Dr. Richard L. Cook Sues in Washington Court for Divorce.

DR. COOK UNIVERSITY MAN

Charged in Complaint That He Attempted to Kill Wife While Drunk.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16.—Dr. Richard L. Cook was made defendant in a suit for divorce in the District Supreme Court to-day. The wife who sues is Mrs. Helen Finley Cook. Dr. and Mrs. Cook have resided in Washington since their marriage in Charlottesville, June 24, 1903, and are well known in this city. The wife charges indelicacy, cruelty and drunkenness, and the case promises to be sensational.

The plaintiff alleges that shortly after their son Richard was born her husband came home drunk and threatened to kill her, compelling her to flee with her baby to the home of a neighbor. On one occasion, the plaintiff alleges, her husband pressed a thirty-two calibre revolver to her temple and threatened to blow out her brains. Other sensational allegations are made by the plaintiff, who asks for the custody of their little boy.

Mrs. Cook is descended from a well-known Virginia family, and married Dr. Cook while he was a student at the University of Virginia.

MOB WANTED TO LYNCH BAD MAN

Five Hundred White Men Gather About Roanoke Jail—Are Soon Quieted.

ROANOKE, VA., May 16.—Because he fired a revolver at a white man who attempted to stop him while he was running from robbers in a crowded street to-night, Will Sanders, a negro, with several aliases and a criminal record, was threatened with death at the hands of a crowd of 500 men who followed him and his captors through Campbell Avenue to the city jail. The crowd, believing that Sanders had shot G. W. Hyatt, when the latter attempted to stop him, cried: "Lynch him!" "Shoot him!" "Kill him!" Police-Justice Bryan arrived at the jail at the same time, and forbade any one entering the station. Hyatt came to the jail while the mob was crying for the man's blood, and he had not been wounded. The mob then disappeared. Sanders was locked up.

PRESIDENT IS COMING TO-DAY

With Mrs. Roosevelt He Will Spend Week-End at Pine Knot Home.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16.—President and Mrs. Roosevelt will leave Washington to-morrow morning for a brief vacation at Pine Knot, Mrs. Roosevelt's country home in Albemarle county, Va. They will be accompanied by several White House servants and the usual escort service guards. Horseback riding and long walks in the country probably will form the main diversions during the stay in the country, which will last over Sunday next.

Wisconsin Deadlock Broken.

MADISON, WIS., May 16.—The sonatorial deadlock in Wisconsin was broken to-night by the nomination of a first bullet Republican candidate, Josephson, of Marinette, cousin of former Congressman Isaac Sto-

TALESMEN STILL BEING EXAMINED

Slow Work of Securing Jury for Trial of Haywood for Murder.

DEFENSE CHALLENGED ONE

Many of Those Summoned Hold Strong Opinions on Case and Step Aside.

BOISE, IDAHO, May 16.—During the one session of the Haywood trial to-day eleven talesmen were examined before a satisfactory jury was secured to replace William Van Orsdale, at No. 2, who was excused yesterday on a peremptory challenge from the State. The defense exercised its first challenge by relieving Alton Price, a farmer. Mr. Price testified during the examination that he had invited to dinner the deputy who served him with a jury summons. He and the deputy discussed the case for some time, the talk being particularly upon Harry Orchard, who is to be the principal witness for the State. A talesman was called to replace Price, but his examination was deferred until to-morrow.

As the work of jury selection progressed the difficulties seemed to increase. One after another the talesmen were excused because of strong opinions as to the guilt or innocence of the accused. One man, called for service, but dismissed by the court, indicated that he was prejudiced against the State because of various acts attributed to the prosecution during the last year. Each side still has nine peremptory challenges to exercise, and there remain fifty-seven members of the special venire.

MANGLED REMAINS OF UNKNOWN MAN

Body Was Entirely Nude When Found and One Leg Had Been Crushed Off.

CLIFTON FORGE, VA., May 16.—Captain W. H. Humphries, a Chesapeake and Ohio conductor, made a gruesome find this morning between 6 and 7 o'clock about one mile west of Covington. Captain Humphries and his crew had been to Alleghany and were returning to Clifton Forge, when at the point named they discovered the mangled remains of a white man on the eastbound track. The man had no arms, there being short stubs at his shoulders with a deforced hand attached to each and extending only a few inches from his body. One of his legs was missing, and despite a careful search along the tracks for some distance the missing member could not be found. What remained of his body was nude. There was nothing about the man to identify him. Captain Humphries reported the case to the trainmaster, who was in Covington, and that official set about to have a coroner's inquest held to inquire into the identity of the stranger and the cause of his death. Just what became of the missing leg and his clothing is a mystery. These may have become entangled in the trucks of one of the cars that passed over him and may never be found.

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CONFEDERATES NOT TO SECURE TENTS

Colonel Gordon Worried by Announcement from Adjutant-General.

GRANT NULLIFIES ORDER

Needed at Jamestown, but Committeees Keep Wires Hot to Get Them Here.

Colonel John W. Gordon, the general chairman of the Confederate Reunion committees, and his veteran associates have been thrown into a state of the greatest mental anxiety by the announcement of Adjutant-General Anderson that the Commonwealth, owing to the Jamestown Exposition, will be unable to lend the old soldiers the 488 tents which were promised some months ago.

General Anderson explains that he has orders from General Fred Grant, United States Army, who commands all the troops at the exposition, to have the camp of the Virginia troops pitched as early as May 20th. Just why this is the old soldiers are at a loss to understand.

Colonel Gordon, on hearing the news, went in great trepidation to Governor Swanson, and laid the whole situation before him. He said that the change would prove almost ruinous, as the veterans had confidently counted on procuring the tents, which were promised them in unqualified terms, and had made all their plans accordingly.

If Colonel Gordon wanted sympathy, he certainly got it from the Governor, who was all attention when the exact state of affairs was explained to him. Figuratively speaking, the executive promised to move heaven and earth to rescue the old soldiers from their dilemma, as he thoroughly appreciated their perplexity. Governor Swanson said he would forthwith put himself in communication with General Grant and explain matters to that officer. Moreover, he expressed himself, like the veterans, as being at a loss to understand why it was necessary to have

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

LIBERALS ELECTED TO RICHMOND CONVENTION

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

PORTLAND, ME., May 16.—Another victory for the liberals was chronicled here to-day in the election of delegates to the General Assembly of the Episcopalians at Richmond. Four liberals were taken to-day at the closing session of the Diocesan Convention, seven liberals being elected, with five conservatives and four delegates whose attitude for the present is uncertain.

Known Is for Taft.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, May 16.—The Republican State Central Committee to-day declared William H. Taft the choice of Kansas to succeed Roosevelt as President.

TRAIN BLOWN AWAY BY DYNAMITE BLAST

Three Men Killed Outright and Other Damage Far and Near.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., May 16.—Three men killed outright, three others fatally and two others badly injured, the crashing of a Southern Railway freight engine and eleven cars through a bridge into the Chattanooga Creek and the destruction of three residences and a pile-driver nearby, were the results of a premature explosion this afternoon of blast at the foot of Lookout Mountain on the Stevenson extension. The dead: Will Hyder, fireman of pile-driver; Clint Shafer, engineer of pile-driver; J. Fitzgerald, negro fireman. Fatally injured: Samuel McMahon, engineer; Christ George, Greek laborer; Chris Costa, Greek laborer. The bridge was crushed by tons of rock just as a Southern Railway freight train was going on it. Other pieces of wreck hurled more than 400 yards crashed through the pilot of a pile-driver of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad, killing Shafer and Hyder and damaged residences on Lookout Mountain.

TRUCK BLOWN AWAY BY DYNAMITE BLAST

Three Men Killed Outright and Other Damage Far and Near.

SHOOK LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Bridge, as Freight Train Reached It, Crushed by Tons of Flying Rock.

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RUEF TELLS ABOUT OTHER GRAFTING

Implicates Schmitz, Pat Calhoun and Mullalley in Street Car Deals.

LIKELY TO INDICT ALL

Says United Railway Gave Up \$200,000 to San Francisco Officials.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 16.—Abraham Ruef to-day carried out his declaration of yesterday that he would, following his change of plea to guilty in the extortion case against him, assist the bribery prosecution in its campaign against municipal corruption.

Ruef, obeying a subpoena from the grand jury, went to the grand jury chamber in Native Sons' Hall, where he took the witness-stand and submitted to an examination that lasted two hours.

When the ordeal was over, he called the newspaper men around him and said that he had promised the grand jury not to divulge anything. District-Attorney Langdon and Assistant District-Attorney Hensy refused to make any statement whatever. From Special Agent Burns, however, it was learned that Ruef told the grand jury that President Patrick Calhoun, Assistant President Thornwell Mullalley, Chief Counsel T. L. Ford and Assistant Counsel William M. Abbott, of the United Railways, paid or caused to be paid the sum of \$200,000 for the provision named; that \$61,000 of this amount was Ruef's "fee"; that \$50,000 went into the pocket of Mayor Schmitz, and that the remaining \$89,000 was handed to the eighteen supervisors, sixteen of them receiving \$4,000 each, another demanding and getting \$10,000, and Chairman Gallagher, of the Finance Committee, being paid \$15,000 for acting as go-between.

Subsequently the statement was made, but not officially confirmed, that indictments had been voted against four high officials of the United Railways and Mayor Schmitz.

SOLDIERS GUILTY OF THE SHOOTING

More Witnesses Swear That Negro Troops Took Part in the Affray.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Two witnesses in the Brownsville investigation before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs to-day testified that they saw negro soldiers shooting up the Texas town on the night of August 13th. One of these was Lieutenant Dominguez, of the Brownsville police, who received a bullet through the arm, and had his horse shot from under him while trying to warn citizens of the approach of the armed men, whom he declared were to be negro soldiers from the garrison. Another was Policeman Padron, who described a busy quarter of an hour during which he saw negro soldiers shooting up the town. He also was positive that the men doing the shooting were negro soldiers.

Other witnesses gave testimony of a similar nature, which was not shaken by cross-examination.

Bonilla in Galveston.

GALVESTON, TEXAS, May 16.—General Manuel Bonilla, exiled President of Honduras, arrived here to-day from Progreso, Mexico, on the Norwegian steamer Molina. The vessel will be released from quarantine to-morrow and proceed to Texas City, when Bonilla will come to Galveston to remain several days.

Impressive Scene in Hall at Opening Session of Body.

ANNUAL SERMON; OFFICERS CHOSEN

Mayor Delivers Address of Welcome, and Response Is Made by Dr. Gambrell, of Texas. Convention Will Hear Reports of Boards To-Day.

Program for To-Day.

AT THE AUDITORIUM.
9:30 A. M.—Convention called to order.
9:30 to 11 A. M.—Reading of Abstracts of the Reports of the boards: (1) Foreign Mission Board, (2) Sunday School and Bible Board, (3) Home Mission Board. Referred to special committees.
11 A. M.—Address by Rev. Dr. J. B. Hawthorne. Adjournment.
3 P. M.—Convention called to order. Foreign Missions. Reports of special committees on report of the board. Discussion.
6 P. M.—Adjourn.
8:15 P. M.—Convention called to order. Foreign Missions. Reports of committees on report of the board further considered and disposed of.
AT OTHER PLACES.
10 A. M.—Woman's Missionary Union at Second Baptist Church, Adams and Franklin Streets. Reports from State organizations. recess at 1 P. M. Resumes at 3 P. M. Adjourn at 6 P. M.
9:30 A. M.—Board of Trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Grove Avenue Baptist Church.

With a religious earnestness and fervor breathed in every word said or sung, the fifty-second session of the Southern Baptist Convention was opened last evening at five minutes past 8 o'clock at the huge Auditorium, especially arranged by the city for the use of the army of delegates. Officers were elected, addresses of greeting were delivered, and the annual sermon before the body was preached.

The hour set for calling the convention to order was 8:15 o'clock, but long before that time the immense hall was filled to overflowing, every seat being occupied except a few in the section set apart for delegates, and the aisles and approaches were packed with people eager to take part in the exercises.

No Disorder.

The behavior of the audience, numbering perhaps not fewer than 4,000 persons, was marked by extraordinary decorum, for despite the anxiety of all to reach those seats nearest the platform, there was no struggling or insistence, and quiet reigned within the building. Every car on every line running within easy distance of the Auditorium was packed with men and women, some of whom wore the red badge of the delegate, but all of whom had some personal interest in the great meeting of the Baptist denomination.

A meeting which promises to be the most important, both in point of numbers of delegates, in general attendance, and in scope of work, that the Southern Baptists have ever known. This promise was more than fulfilled last night, and later, when the official announcement was made by the president, Dr. Edwin William Stephens, of Columbia, Mo., applause could not for a time be controlled, despite the determined effort of the presiding officer.

Even the street car men seemed to catch the enthusiasm that obtained, for when a car filled to overflowing was stopped by a party of men and women demanding transportation, the conductor exclaimed, "If you are Baptist, I can find room for you."

"We are," was the reply, and room on the car was discovered.

Bureau of Information.

In the outer hallways of the Auditorium, the local committee had established a bureau of information. In which are telephones for the use of the delegates, and where a large force of attendants are placed to attend to the comfort of those visiting the convention. In this space, all exhibits of the various religious publishing houses, whose publications seemed to attract the attention both of the ministerial and lay delegates.

Within the Auditorium a countless row of seats slant down to an immense platform at the east end, at the sides of which are committee rooms, so that the delegates serving on committees are in close touch with the affairs of the convention.

At the west end a spacious gallery takes care of many hundreds of those delegates, who, seated in the main floor, the whole building being lighted and ventilated in a most comfortable manner.

The seats on the main floor nearest the platform are reserved for delegates, and it was noticeable that in this great space, not a woman found a place. All seated there were men, earnest, alert, quick to catch and mark an important utterance, and alive to the every point bearing on the work of the convention.

On the platform were seated President Stephens, the presiding officer; Dr. Lansing Burrows and Dr. O. F. Gregory, the secretaries; Mr. George W. Norton, the treasurer; Dr. William Patrick Harvey, the auditor; Hon. Henry R. Pollard and Mr. Charles Aurelius Smith, vice-presidents; the chair of the convention, the most illustrious, under the leadership of Mr. James H. Harwood, principal of the High School, a number of distinguished Baptist divines and laymen and a small army of news-

The Times-Dispatch
IT IS SUPREME IN VIRGINIA